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CHILE

I. Status and Strength of the Chilean Communist Party

Since 1950 the 1948 Defense of Democracy Law against the Communists has not been strictly enforced, and the Party has carried on open political and propaganda activities. Its membership strength is concentrated in urban and mining areas. The Party has been able to retain considerable influence in labor and intellectual circles. Communist lawyers are given special training in handling labor-management relations, and the Communist El Siglo is the only newspaper with full labor coverage. Many Chilean intellectuals have long been indoctrinated with Marxist ideology; low-paid Chilean teachers are a special target of Communist propaganda.

The Party takes an active part in political affairs through the Popular Action Front (FRAP). This bloc tripled its strength in February 1956 by winning the support of two additional parties, including the Popular Socialist, the strongest party in the labor field, which subsequently amalgamated with the Socialist Party of Chile. FRAP now includes five parties: the Communist, Socialist, Democratic Party of Chile, People's Democratic Party and the Labor Party. Although FRAP lost strength in the 1957 congressional elections, the Communist Party itself apparently increased its representation. Five of the deputies elected as Socialists are believed to be Communists in contrast to three in the previous Congress. PCCH is estimated to have 20,000 members.

II. Party Units Responsible for Sabotage, Assassination, Kidnapping or Terrorist Missions

Certain individuals in the student and youth groups have shown interest in acquiring explosives and in manufacturing bombs. There is some evidence that this activity is not approved by the leadership of the Communist Youth front.

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III. Sabotage Training Given Within Chile

In June 1956 a PCCh functionary stated that the Party had not conducted classes in sabotage since 1952, implying that prior to that date it had been a normal part of the PCCh training program. No further details are available about sabotage training prior to 1952.

IV. Sabotage Training Given Chilean Communists in Communist Bloc Countries

Negative.

V. Sabotage, Assassination, Kidnapping, Terrorist Missions and Targets

a. U.S. and/or U.S. Allies Personnel, Installations

Negative.

b. Other Sabotage Targets

At the opportune time, for example, in case of outbreak of war against the Soviet Union, PCCh members will "automatically" undertake sabotage against the railways, telephone and telegraph communications, official radio transmitters and receivers, copper, coal and iron mines.

VI. Evidence of Direction and Support from the USSR, China or Other Communist Country

Negative.

IX. Estimate of Threat from Local Communist Party Sabotage, Terrorism, etc.

In view of PCCh's strength in the mining areas and in view of several reports stating that Communists in those areas have been acquiring explosives, it would appear that the mines are

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particularly susceptible to sabotage. PCCh will probably order such action to be taken only in the event that it can exploit a local grievance, or in the event of international war involving the Soviet Union. PCCh would capitalize upon any organized opposition to the government (at which time it would probably try to incite violent action) but in view of its present strength would not initiate such action.

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